

What is claimed is:

1. A sheet take-out apparatus comprising:

a sheet-feeding member on which sheets are placed;

5 an air spout unit to spout out air toward a side of said sheets;

a take-out unit to take out a sheet from said sheets in a predetermined taking-out direction; and

a depression member to depress said sheets against said  
10 sheet-feeding member on a rear edge side located behind a central portion of said sheets with respect to the taking-out direction of said take-out unit.

2. A sheet take-out apparatus according to Claim 1,  
15 wherein said air spout unit is an air nozzle provided in a vicinity of said take-out unit.

3. A sheet take-out apparatus according to Claim 2,  
wherein said air spout unit includes first and second air nozzles  
20 provided on both sides of the sheets placed on said sheet-feeding member.

4. A sheet take-out apparatus according to Claim 3,  
wherein said air spout unit further includes a third air nozzle  
25 provided on a rear edge side of the sheets that is farther from said take-out unit than a place of said first air nozzle.

5. A sheet take-out apparatus comprising:

a sheet-feeding member on which sheets are placed;

an air spout unit to spout out air toward a side of said  
5 sheets depressed by said depression member;

a take-out unit to take out a sheet from said sheets  
toward which said air spout unit spouts the air; and

an air jet nozzle to depress said sheets against said  
sheet-feeding member on a rear edge side located behind a central  
10 portion of said sheets with respect to a taking-out direction of said  
take-out unit..

6. A sheet take-out apparatus according to Claim 5,  
wherein a pointed end of said air jet nozzle is provided on a rear  
15 edge side that is farther from said take-out unit than the center of  
said sheets placed on said sheet-feeding member.

7. A sheet take-out apparatus comprising:

a sheet-feeding member on which sheets are placed;

20 an air spout unit to spout out air toward said sheets  
depressed by said depression member; and

a take-out unit having a take-out rotor to take out a top  
sheet and a reverse rotation rotor that rotates in reverse with  
respect to said take-out rotor and returns excessive sheets taken  
25 from said sheets to said sheet-feeding member; and

a depression member to depress said sheets against said

sheet-feeding member on a rear edge side located behind a central portion of said sheets with respect to a taking-out direction of said take-out unit.

5           8. A sheet take-out apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein said take-out rotor and said reverse rotation rotor each are provided with surfaces in which suction holes are defined to suck a sheet from said sheets.

10           9. A sheet take-out apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein a friction coefficient of said surface of said take-out rotor is larger than that of said surface of said reverse rotation rotor.

10. A sheet take-out apparatus comprising:

a sheet-feeding member on which sheets are placed;

15           guide members provided on both sides of the sheet placed on said sheet-feeding member to adjust a position of said sheets in a width direction thereof;

an air spout unit to spout out air toward a side of said sheets depressed by said depression member;

20           a take-out unit to take out a sheet from said sheets toward which the air is spouted; and

a depression member to depress said sheets against said sheet-feeding member on a rear edge side located behind a central portion of said sheets with respect to a taking-out direction of said  
25 take-out unit.

11. A sheet take-out apparatus according to Claim 8,  
wherein said air spout unit is attached to said guide members.

12. A method of taking out a sheet comprising:

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placing sheets on a sheet-feeding member;

spouting out air toward a side of said bundle of sheets;

taking out a sheet from said bundle of sheets toward  
which the air is spouted; and

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depressing said bundle of sheets against said  
sheet-feeding member on a rear edge side located behind a central  
portion of said depressed sheets with respect to a taking-out  
direction of said take-out unit.

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